REPERMAL

BEFORE THE

Federal Communications Commission W6 2 3 1993

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In re Applications of

MM DOCKET NO. 93-42

MOONBRAM, INC.

File No. BPH-911115MG

GARY R. WILLSON

File No. BPH-911115MO

For a Construction Permit New FM Station on Channel 265A in Calistoga, California

TO: The Honorable Edward Luton
Administrative Law Judge

OPPOSITION TO SECOND MOTION TO ENLARGE ISSUES AGAINST GARY E. WILLSON

Gary E. Willson (Willson) pursuant to Rule 1.229 files this opposition to the Second Motion to Enlarge Issues Against Gary E. Willson filed by Moonbeam, Inc. (Moonbeam). Moonbeam seeks addition of a financial qualifications issue, a false financial certification issue, and a misrepresentation issue related to financial testimony given at hearing by Mr. Willson.

1. Overview.

Moonbeam seeks financial issues against Willson. Moonbeam makes the allegation that Willson is not financially qualified to meet projected costs of \$158,300, but offers no evidence to indicate he is not. To the contrary, the Willson financial statement, attached as Exhibit 1 to Moonbeam's Petition, shows assets over liabilities of over \$2.3 million, which includes liquid assets on hand over current liabilities of over \$600,000. Willson is not required to affirmatively demonstrate his financial qualifications in response to speculative and

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unsupported allegations in a Petition to Enlarge seeking financial issues. The burden is on petitioner to raise substantial and material questions. 47 C.F.R. \$1.229(d); see also, Priscilla L. Schwier, 4 FCC Rcd. 2659, 2660 (1989) ("general conclusiary allegations and speculation simply are not Nonetheless, Willson is submitting backup sufficient"). documentation for the period November 12, 1991 when the application was certified demonstrating the availability of liquid assets in excess of \$200,000. This backup documentation represents only a portion of Willson's stock portfolio at the time and even a smaller portion of the over \$600,000 in liquid assets over current liabilities available at the time of certification. Willson has also submitted his current financial statement dated as of August 15, 1993 showing the availability of net liquid assets exceeding \$470,000 and a net worth exceeding liabilities of over \$2.8 million.

Moonbeam claims Willson falsely certified as to his financial qualifications because the application was signed on November 12, 1991 and the financial statement is dated November 15, 1991, the date the application was filed. Willson is not relying on other sources of financing. He is an individual applicant relying on his own assets. He was well aware of his own financial wherewithal to prosecute his application and construct and operate the station at the time he certified his application. Mr. Willson manages his assets and investments and stores the financial information in his home computer. Such information, including liabilities, was stored and available to

him in his computer as of November 12, 1991 and reviewed by him before his application was certified. Mr. Willson had net current liquid assets over current liabilities of more than twice the amount needed for construction and operation of the station when he certified his application.

Despite Mr. Willson's obvious wherewithal and ability to construct and operate the station, Moonbeam accuses Mr. Willson of lying at the hearing. The allegation is based on an ambiguous response to a question Willson was not allowed to fully answer. Willson had no motive to lie since he was and is amply and demonstrably financially qualified.

2. Financial Qualifications.

Moonbeam has offered no evidence to support its contention that Willson is not financially qualified. As noted by the Commission in Priscilla L. Schwier, 4 FCC Rcd. 2659, 2660 (1989) in denying a financial issue, "procedurally [petitioner] bears a burden of making a prima facie case for adding a financial issue against [the other party], and [the other party] has no obligation to document its financial plan until [petitioner] meets that burden." The Commission further noted, "[Petitioner] has offered nothing more than a series of speculations, which do not meet the threshold requirements set forth in 47 C.F.R. \$1.229(d)." Id. at \$17. Despite Moonbeam's lack of evidence and speculation, Willson has attached the hard copy backup for a portion of the stock in his stock portfolio at the time the application was certified and filed showing liquid assets on hand far exceeding the \$158,300 contemplated to construct and operate

the station. <u>See</u> Exhibit 1. The listed stock is publicly traded and can be readily sold, and is therefore liquid. Willson has also provided a current financial statement demonstrating his current financial qualifications. Although not required to do so, Willson has thus affirmatively demonstrated his financial qualifications at both the time the application was certified and currently.

Mrs. Willson provides her declaration confirming that Mr. Willson has free reign to spend as he chooses any and all community property in prosecuting, constructing and operating the Calistoga station. See Exhibit 2. Use of community property is of no consequence in FCC proceedings. See Lone Cypress Radio Associates, Inc., 8 FCC Rcd. 972 (Rev. Bd., February 18, 1993). Even if only half of Willson's assets were available, there would still be more than sufficient funds to construct and operate the station. Mr. Willson also had more than enough liquid assets on hand to meet anticipated prosecution costs, but since his intent was to pay these costs on an ongoing basis, and because he has done so, these costs need not be taken into consideration. Muncie Broadcasting Corp., 54 RR 2d 42, 46-47 (1983) (prosecution costs need not be taken into consideration where they are paid on an ongoing basis).

3. The Financial Certification.

As noted above, Willson was more than financially qualified at the time the application was certified and filed. However, Moonbeam asserts false certification, stating:

Mr. Willson's financial statement and testimony reflect that Mr. Willson had no current financial statement prior to November 15, 1991. Accordingly, Mr. Willson did not have a balance sheet on hand on which to base his Form 301 Section 3 financial certification when he signed his application.

This statement is based on absolutely no evidence. Mr. Willson had a record of his financial holdings and status on his computer. It was available to him at the time his application was certified. He was aware of his significant net worth at the time he certified. As evidenced by the attached account statements, Mr. Willson had even more reliable information at the time he certified than just a financial statement—he had actual statements of account. 1

Willson is an individual applicant proposing to finance his application himself. As such, the recent Review Board Decision HS Communications, 7 FCC Rcd. 6448 (Rev. Bd., 1992) is on point. There, both the ALJ and Review Board refused to add financial issues against an individual applicant, Stacy Brody, based on allegations that, "she determined her ability to fund these requirements by looking only at her bank accounts without considering her liabilities or preparing a financial statement." Id. at #21. The Board denied the issue, noting, "There does not appear to be any serious question about her wherewithal to cover the projected costs at the time of certification." Id. at #23. The Board further noted, "HS has offered nothing that would

Contrary to Moonbeam's assertions otherwise, Willson also notes that the instructions to FCC Form 301, page 6, D(3) requires an applicant to have on hand financial data as of the time it files its application—not as of the date of certification.

contradict her claim that she had sufficient net liquid assets at the time of certification. Without a factual basis for disputing Brody's declaration, the Board cannot find that there is a substantial and material question of fact about Brody's ability to self-finance her application that likely would be resolved against her." The Board further noted, "HS has only speculated that Brody, who is financing her own application, is so unfamiliar with her personal financial situation that she could not be reasonably assured of her ability to meet her financial commitment once she certified. This is not enough." Id. at n. 23. Similarly, here it would be even more speculative to suggest Willson, a self-made millionaire since the early 1980's, is so unfamiliar with his financial situation that his financial certification is suspect.

Another Review Board decision Grady Lynn, 7 FCC Rcd. 8536 (Rev. Bd., released December 17, 1992) is also instructive. There, the Review Board held that an applicant, which had an oral commitment from a third party to fund the applicant, had satisfactorily certified: "We do not agree that the facts presented failed to satisfy the Commission's heightened standards for financial certification nor that such standards were in any event intended to be applied in such an over-reaching, technical manner as Lynn suggests so as to result in Jamal's financial disqualification." Id. at \$15. Here, at the time of certification, Willson who manages his own assets and did so at the time of certification, had available to him and reviewed on his computer his financial wherewithal before certifying the

application and at that time was very aware of his financial Willson also capability to construct and operate the station. had hard copy of account statements and stock data such as that attached clearly showing available liquid assets over current liabilities far in excess of the amount needed. Indeed, since 1981, when Mr. Willson sold his Fresno station, he has had a net worth, less liabilities, of over \$2.3 million dollars. See Exhibit 1. He has since then always had available at least \$450,000 in liquid assets over and above any current liabilities. Willson has provided additional documentation as Exhibit 1 unequivocally demonstrating more than enough liquid assets to construct and operate the station at the time of certification. 2

4. Hearing Testimony.

Moonbeam claims Mr. Willson testified falsely at hearing. Willson, it is alleged, purportedly made a misrepresentation by testifying that he relied on his November 15, 1991 financial statement in certifying his financial qualifications. Moonbeam cites a brief portion of hearing testimony to support its allegation. Counsel for Moonbeam placed a copy of Willson's financial statement dated November 15, 1991 before Mr. Willson and asked if Willson, "relied upon this document for anything in relation to your application?"

- A: Yes.
- Q: And what was -- what did you rely on it for?

² Moonbeam, based on no evidence and no motive, claims that the financial statement was manufactured evidence. Moonbeam's speculation flies in the face of Willson's now proven financial qualifications at the time he certified the application.

A: To show that I had the proper assets, liquid assets to fund the station for three months of operation.

Q: And this was at the time you prepared and signed the application?

A: Well this particular financial --

Q: Just say yes or no to the question. Was this at the time you signed and prepared the application?

A: Yes.

Moonbeam, as is readily apparent, cut Willson off and kept him from fully responding to the question. It is also ambiguous whether Willson is referring to a financial statement, financial data, or the financial statement dated November 15, 1991. event, there was no misrepresentation. See Fox River Broadcasting, Inc., 93 FCC2d at 129 (even a mistake without deceptive intent is not a misrepresentation or lack of candor). As already explained, Willson did in fact rely on financial data demonstrating his financial wherewithal which was stored in the Willson computer at the time his application was certified. hard copy of Willson's liquid assets, such as the stock data attached and accounts statements, was also available to Mr. See Exhibit 1. There was no motive to misrepresent. Willson was clearly financially qualified at the time the application was certified and filed. Cf. See Broadcast Associates of Colorado, Inc., 104 FCC2d 16 (1986) (applicant that certified its application before review or receipt of engineering did not misrepresent.) See also Annette B. Godwin, 8 FCC Rcd. (Rev. Bd., released June 17, 1993).

5. Timeliness.

Moonbeam's petition is untimely. Moonbeam has had Willson's financial statement for over 2 months since June 11, 1993 when It has had a copy of the financial statement was produced. Willson's application for much longer than that. Petitions to enlarge must be filed within 15 days of newly discovered evidence or within 15 days after the facts could reasonably have been known. The Commission has been strictly enforcing timeliness requirements for petitions to enlarge. Great Lakes Broadcasting, Inc., 6 FCC Rcd. 4331 (1991). As noted by the Review Board in HS Communications, Inc., supra, "applicants have a duty to raise questions about their opponent's proposal as soon as possible, preferably before the hearing begins." Id. at ¶19. Late filed petitions to enlarge are not to be considered absent a showing of probable decisional significance and substantial public interest importance as well as a showing based on a heightened burden demonstrating a substantial likelihood of proving the allegations. Id. at 4332. Here, all of Moonbeam's allegations are speculative. Willson has, despite this, affirmatively demonstrated his financial wherewithal to construct and operate the station.

6. Conclusion.

Moonbeam, of course, has the burden of making a <u>prima facie</u> showing that its allegations have merit and are substantive. Otherwise, "if a hearing could be invoked merely upon the assertion of financial inability, the Commission's task ... would be a hopeless one." <u>Telemedia Corp. v. FCC</u>, 697 F2d 402, 416, n.

49 (DC Cir. 1983). Moonbeam's allegations are pure speculation. Nevertheless, Willson has addressed this speculation and has demonstrated that at the time his application was certified, as now, he had net liquid assets on hand that were more than sufficient to meet projected costs to construct and operate.

Respectfully submitted,

GARY E. WILLSON

GAMMON & GRANGE, P.C. 8280 Greensboro Drive Seventh Floor McLean, VA 22102-3807 (703) 761-5000

August 23, 1993

[0068/C93awf.OppMot2]

A. Wray Altch

EXHIBIT 1

DECKARATION

- I, Gary Willson, hereby declare under penalty of parjury that the following is true and correct:
- 1. I serve as what might be called "Chief Financial Officer" over my assets and community property assets. My wife and I maintain financial data on our home computer which provides a picture of our assets and financial condition.
- 2. Prior to certifying my Calistoga application on November 12, 1991, I reviewed the financial data on the computer taking into consideration my assets and liabilities. I determined that I had in net liquid assets far more than the \$158,300 projected to construct and operate the station. I also determined that I had sufficient funds to meet projected costs of prosecuting the application although my practice has been to meet those expenses on an ongoing basis.
- 3. I have attached to this declaration hard dopy documentation supporting the availability of over \$200,000 which represents just part of my stock portfolio at the time I signed the application. At that time my total current assets, less current liabilities, were in excess of \$600,000.
- 4. I have also attached a current financial statement revealing net assets over liabilities of \$2.8 Million Dollars and net liquid assets over current liabilities of over \$470,000. Since 1981, when I sold my radio station in Fresno, I have had a net worth of over \$2.3 Million. Since that time at least \$450,000 and usually more has been liquid (i.e., cash or easily converted to cash--i.e., stock, CDs, etc.).
- 5. I have reviewed the hearing transcript cited by Moonbeam. As I started to explain in hearing, I was not relying on the financial statement dated November 15, 1991 at the time I signed my application, but on financial data like that in the financial statement available to me on my computer. I also had available to me, and on hand at that time, hard copy account statements and financial documentation like that attached.

8-19-93 Date

Gary Willson

Gary E. Willson

Partial Stock Portfolio¹ as of 11/12/91

No. of Shares	Stock	Stock Price	Stock Value as of 11/12/91
3249.56	Pacific Gas & Electric	\$29.23 ² /\$30.50 ³	\$99,111.58
1007.51	Pacific Gas & Electric	\$29.232/\$30.503	\$30,729.06
265	Hawaiian Electric	\$33.942/\$37.253	\$9,871.25
131.69	Security Pacific	\$28.872/\$31.253	\$4,115.31
240	Detroit Edison	\$29.50 ⁴ /\$33.63 ³	\$8,071.20
450	Exxon	\$61.004/\$60.253	\$27,112.50
200	JC Penney	\$50.00 ⁴ /\$52.00 ³	\$10,400.00
200	Wells Fargo	\$68.884/\$63.783	\$12,756.00
		Total:	\$202,166.90

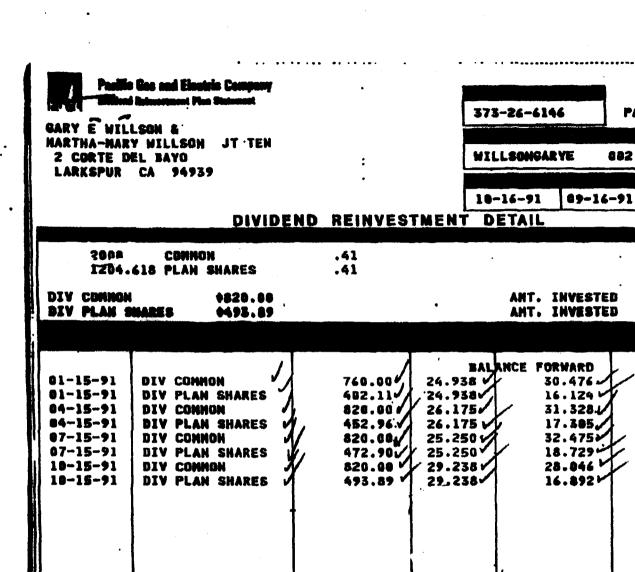
All listed stocks are publicly traded on one of the three major stock exchanges. Prices are verifiable on a daily basis through the *Wall Street Journal*, other major daily newspapers and other financial sources.

¹ This is a partial list of stocks owned by Gary E. Willson as of 11/12/91. The summary does not represent the entirety of Mr. Willson's stock holdings. Backup documentation for the above-described stocks is attached.

² Stock price listed reflects data from most recent Statement of Account prior to 11/12/91.

³ Stock price listed reflects data from 11/12/91 in *The LEXIS Financial Information Service*.

⁴ Stock price listed reflects data form 10/31/91 in *The LEXIS Financial Information Service*.



PAGE NO.

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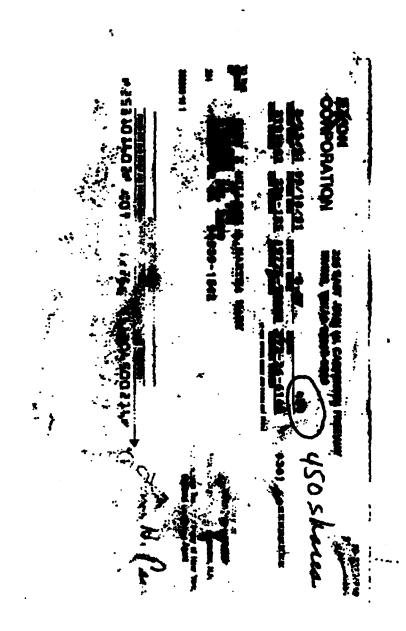
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PO BOX 730 • HONOLULU, HI 96608-0730 TELEPHONE (806) 532-6841

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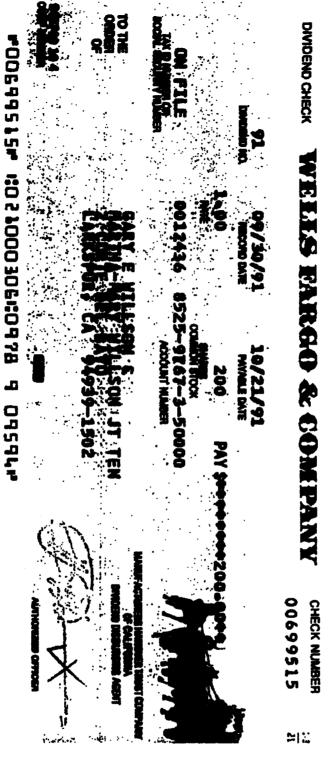


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IMPORTANT TAX RETURN DOCUMENT ATTACHED



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Columbia

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68 Broadwore

Hurst Coach Notes Porter Nobile Bone	\$25,232.52 \$1,100.00	\$92,802. 50
Relatives notes	\$25,000.60	
Notes: Total	V	\$26,100.00
TOTAL FIXED ASSETS		\$3,986,202.50
•		•
TOTAL ASSETS		\$4,463,048.51
Gary E. & Mertha-Mary Willson Financial Statement As of:	8/15/93	ı
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES Bank loans payable Accounts payable	\$0.00 \$3,700.00	
Taxes payable	\$0.00	•
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES:		\$3,700.00
LONG TERM LIABILITIES		
Notes-Real Estate Owned	4544 754 44	
Hortgegu-Personal Residence	\$201,350.00	
ist Dr-Sandy Point, Bethel Isl	\$154,735.78	,
1st DY-Sandy Point, Sanger	\$86,331.00	
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2nd DT-Sandy Point, Antioch	\$272,842.63	
let DT-Sandy Point, Santa Rosa	\$76,912.90	
2nd DT-Sandy Point, Santa Rosa	\$290,710.71	
1st DT-Bendix Coach	\$3,408.79	
Motes-Real Estate Owned: Total	•	\$1,556,894.02
Business Loans		
Dryer Loun-San Anselmo	\$23,333.40	
Business Loans; Total		\$23,333.40
1990 Lincoln Townser-Auto Loan	\$0.00	
Auto Loans: Total		\$0.00
Total Long-Term Liabilities		\$1,583,927.42
TOTAL LIABILITIES		\$1,587,627.42
NUT WORTH		\$2,875,421.09
LIABILITIES AND MET WORTH		\$4,463,048.51

EXHIBIT 2

DECLARATION

I, Martha Mary Willson, hereby declare under panalty of perjury that the following is true and correct.

My husband, Gary Willson, has had since he filed his application for the Calistoga radio station authority to use community property assets to fund the prosecution of his application, and to construct and operate the station.

8/19/93

Martine Mary William

[0058/C93awfDec12]